

Meeting Notes  
Yurok Environmental Monitoring Workgroup  
Tribal Office, Klamath  
Monday, December 9, 2002

Participants: Kevin McKernan, Environmental Program Director, Yurok Tribe  
Lori McKinnon, Yurok Tribe Environmental Program  
Ken Fetcho, Yurok Tribe Environmental Program  
Jennifer Kalt, California Indian Basketweavers Assoc.  
Richard Myers, Yurok Tribe  
Jene McCovey, Yurok Tribe  
Susan "Tweet" Burdick, Yurok Tribe  
Ken Childs, Sr., Yurok Tribe  
LaVerne Glaze, Karuk Tribe  
Renee Stauffer, Karuk Tribe

Ex officio: Kean Goh, Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Pam Wofford, Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Dr. Mike O'Malley, UC Davis (under contract with DPR)  
Dave Cavyell, Del Norte County Agricultural Commissioner's Office  
Jeff Dolf, Humboldt County Agricultural Commissioner's Office  
Paul Holzberger, Humboldt County Agricultural Commissioner's Office  
John Pricer, Simpson Timber Company

The meeting notes from August 21, 2002 were reviewed and approved. Richard asked about the discussion of notification of residents along Johnson Road about ground applications made along the roadsides. **John** indicated that it was not required to post notices on the road. **Ken** asked if it would be alright for the Tribe to post notifications along roads in treatment areas. **John** said that he will look into the question. **Lori** presented the Yurok Tribe Environmental Program (YTEP) spray activities report on the fall 2002 spray season. Two sites were selected for sampling tanoak acorns and huckleberry berries. Both sites were adjacent to ground application areas of 2,4-D and garlon, one treated in August 2002 and the other in the spring of 2002. The samples were collected 25 – 75 feet from the edge of the application at the August application site and 5 – 15 feet from the edge of application at the spring application site. The herbicides were not detected in any of the samples. In addition to the plant samples, the YTEP collected water samples during the first rainfall event following an atrazine application in the Williams Ridge area. The samples were split for analysis between in-house analysis with the Rapid Assay atrazine kit and the CDFA laboratory (laboratory used by DPR). Results from the laboratory were not available for the meeting.

**Dr. Mike O'Malley** discussed his work on a program to assist health providers with recognizing illnesses related to forestry herbicide exposure. The work was part of the US EPA grant for the forestry herbicide study. He outlined some of the basic toxicology of the herbicides monitored by the forestry herbicide study. He also talked some on the issue of residues of hazardous materials on repatriated materials such as baskets and skins.

During lunch, **Troy Fletcher** presented information on the fish kill in the Klamath River this fall. The Tribe is suing the Bureau of Reclamation over the amount of water that was diverted from

the Klamath for irrigation use in the upper Klamath region. The Bureau of Reclamation controls the water diversion in the upper Klamath region. The Tribe contends that too much water was diverted for irrigation leaving the Klamath with inadequate flows to support the spawning salmon.

After lunch **Pam** presented the final report for “Forest Herbicide Residues in Surface Water and Plants in the Tribal Territory of the Lower Klamath River Watershed of California” study. The results for all of the water, plant, fish and other sampling were discussed. This meeting will conclude the presence of the Department of Pesticide Regulation in the YEMWG. **Kean** presented the final report for the “Surface Water Monitoring for Pesticides in the Hupa and Karuk Territories” study.

Lori discussed an update on alternatives to herbicide use and mentioned that they are still trying to get started on the hand clearing of 36 acres of Simpson land as an alternative to spraying. The group discussed general pesticide use in the area. **Paul** said there hasn't been any aerial applications in Humboldt County for a long time. He mentioned that he does do inspections on ground applications. **Dave** said that he also had done some inspections this year. The group then talked about the possibility of continuing the work group without the Department of Pesticide Regulation. Most everyone present expressed a desire to continue the group. **Lori** will set up the next meeting in early March to discuss the spray plans for next years applications.